

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7105

S E C R E T BUENOS AIRES 6017

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHLAUDEMAN FROM AMBASSADOR HILL

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, SHUM, IDB, PORG, US, AR

SUBJECT: HARKIN AMENDMENT

REF: STATE 227379

1. I HAVE ASKED FOR AN APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT VIDELA, AND WILL CARRY OUT THE INSTRUCTIONS FORWARDED IN REFTEL. HOWEVER, AS DURING MY RECENT CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON I HAD BEEN VERY IMPRESSED BY THE CONCERN SHOWN IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE OVER HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARGENTINA (AS INDEED WE HERE IN BUENOS AIRES ARE CONCERNED), I WAS SOMEWHAT DISAPPOINTED TO NOTE FROM REFTEL THAT APPARENTLY MY PRESENTATION RESULTED ONLY IN A REAFFIRMATION OF AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE ON THE IDB LOAN. I STILL THINK THIS IS A MISTAKE AND COULD RESULT IN MISINTERPRETATIONS HERE CONCERNING THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH THE USG VIEWS THIS PROBLEM.

2. AS YOU KNOW, AMBASSADOR MUSICH RETURNED TO BUENOS AIRES SEPTEMBER 13. HE CALLED ON ME THIS AFTERNOON AND TOLD ME HE HAD RETURNED ON URGENT BASIS BECAUSE HE BELIEVED US WAS GOING TO VOTE AGAINST ARGENTINA IN IDB, AND THAT HE HAD OBLIGATION (A) TO WARN HIS GOVERNMENT, AND (B) TO MAKE PERSONAL EFFORT TO EXPLAIN USG'S CONCERN OVER HUMAN RIGHTS TO SENIOR OFFICIALS IN GOA--SOMETHING HE FELT HE HAD BEEN UNABLE TO DO BY CABLE.

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3. MUSICH SAID HE HAD JUST SPENT 1 1/2 HOURS WITH PRESIDENT VIDELA AND HAD LEFT MEETING CONVINCED VIDELA UNDERSTANDS US POSITION AND IS MOVING TO BRING HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION UNDER CONTROL. MUSICH PRONOUNCED HIMSELF ENCOURAGED.

4. DID MY MEMO OF SEPT 3 TO YOU RECOMMENDING A NEGATIVE VOTE IN IDB GO FORWARD TO SECRETARY?

5. AS A RESULT OF REFTEL AND SOME NEW INDICATORS THAT ARGENTINA MAY BE GETTING MESSAGE, I BELIEVE IT IS UNNECESSARY FOR GENERAL WALTERS TO COME AT THIS TIME.
HILL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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